

I029786

From: [Steeger, Thomas](#)
To: [Miller, Robert](#)
Subject: Bee Kill Incident Report
Date: Sunday, March 19, 2017 4:30:45 PM
Attachments: [Beekill \(Oliver California 03_18_17\).docx](#)

Bob-- attached is a bee kill incident report from [REDACTED] a beekeeper in California.

On Saturday, March 18, 2017, a bee kill was reported to the Environmental Fate and Effects Division by [REDACTED] a beekeeper in California. The incident was detected on March 15, 2017, when the beekeeper was preparing to move 70 colonies from a research almond orchard in Colusa County, California, belonging to the University of California Davis. The affected colonies were providing pollination services for almond trees and the incident involved the loss of several hundred bees per colony. According to the beekeepers, the affected bees were mostly young bees believed to be actively consuming incoming pollen. The beekeeper attributed the loss to possible pesticide application; however, the specific pesticide was not identified. Samples of dead bees were collected by the beekeeper for residue analyses. The incident was reported to the California Agriculture Commissioner's Office; however, according to the beekeeper, since colonies had been moved from their location in the almond orchard and since the beekeeper did not plan to seek damages, an investigation was not conducted by the state. According to the beekeeper, since samples of dead bees were collected by the beekeeper rather than the state, the state could not establish a chain of custody and would not analyze the samples. The affected colonies appear to be doing well as of March 18, 2017.